

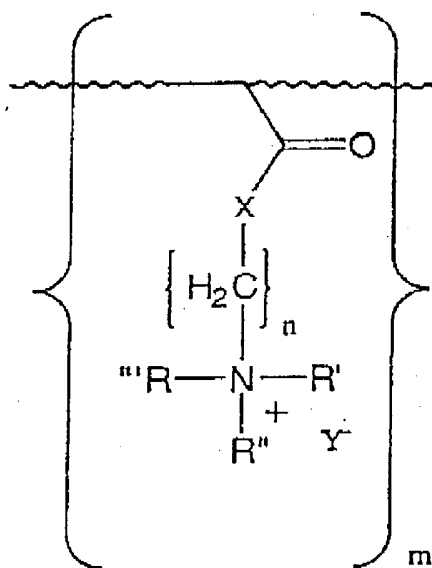
Appl. No. 09/503,770  
Amdt. Dated March 22, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 21, 2003

### Listing of Claims

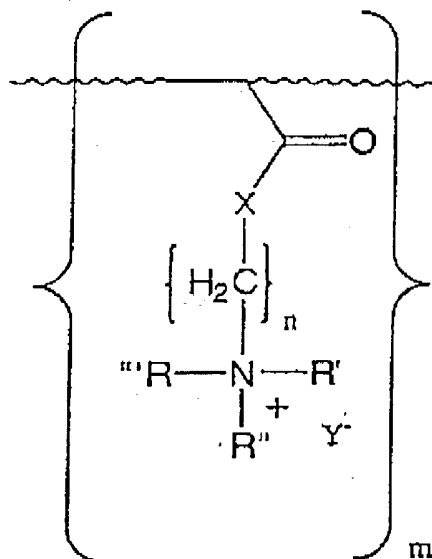
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-72. (Cancelled)

73. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing adapted to cover and contact a wound, said wound dressing comprising a support structure in communication with a cationic aqueous hydrogel that comprises from about 15 to about 95 percent by weight of an inherently antimicrobial quaternary amine acrylate polymer having the formula:



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wherein  $n$  is an integer of 2 to 3;  $R'$ ,  $R''$  and  $R'''$  are independently selected from the group consisting of H,  $C_1$  to  $C_8$  alkyl, phenyl, tolyl, and benzyl;  $X$  is selected from the group consisting of O and NH;  $Y^-$  is selected from the group consisting of  $Cl^-$ ,  $Br^-$ ,  $HSO_4^-$ , and  $CH_3SO_4^-$  and  $m$  is an integer greater than 50,000.

74. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein  $R'$ ,  $R''$  are methyl and  $R'''$  is benzyl.

75. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein  $R'$ ,  $R''$  and  $R'''$  are methyl.

76. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein  $X$  is O.

77. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein  $X$  is NH.

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78. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein Y is Cl.

79. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein n is 2.

80. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein n is 3.

81. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein said acrylate polymer is formed from a monomer selected from the group consisting of acryloyloxyethyltrimethyl ammonium chloride, acryloyloxyethyltrimethyl ammonium methyl sulfate, acrylamidopropyltrimethyl ammonium chloride, acryloxyethyltrimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride, and combinations thereof.

82. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein said support structure is affixed to said hydrogel.

83. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 82, wherein said support structure includes a web or fibril material.

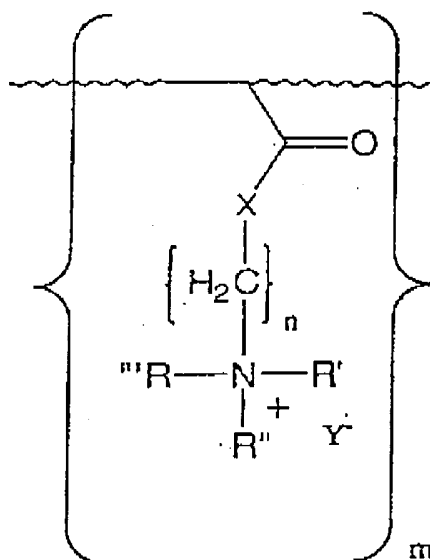
84. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing as defined in claim 82, wherein said support structure includes an impermeable backing.

85. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein said hydrogel acrylate polymer comprises from about 61 to about 90 percent by weight of said hydrogel acrylate polymer.

86. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing as defined in claim 73, wherein said hydrogel acrylate polymer comprises from about 65 to about 75 percent by weight of said hydrogel acrylate polymer.

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87. (Previously Presented) A wound dressing comprising a support structure and a cationic aqueous hydrogel affixed to said support structure and adapted to cover a wound, said hydrogel comprising from about 61 to about 90 percent by weight of an inherently antimicrobial quaternary amine acrylate polymer having the formula:



wherein  $n$  is an integer of 2 to 3;  $R'$ ,  $R''$  and  $R'''$  are independently selected from the group consisting of H,  $C_1$  to  $C_8$  alkyl, phenyl, tolyl, and benzyl;  $X$  is selected from the group consisting of O and NH;  $Y^-$  is selected from the group consisting of  $Cl^-$ ,  $Br^-$ ,  $HSO_4^-$ , and  $CH_3SO_4^-$  and  $m$  is an integer greater than 50,000.

88. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing as defined in claim ~~73~~ 87, wherein  $X$  is O.

89. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing as defined in claim ~~73~~ 87, wherein  $X$  is NH.

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90. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing as defined in claim ~~73~~ 87, wherein said ~~hydrogel acrylate polymer~~ comprises from about 65 to about 75 percent by weight of said ~~hydrogel acrylate polymer~~.

91. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing as defined in claim ~~73~~ 87, wherein n is 2.

92. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing as defined in claim ~~73~~ 87, wherein n is 3.

93. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing as defined in claim ~~73~~ 87, wherein said acrylate polymer is formed from a monomer selected from the group consisting of acryloyloxyethyltrimethyl ammonium chloride, acryloyloxyethyltrimethyl ammonium methyl sulfate, acrylamidopropyltrimethyl ammonium chloride, acryloyloxyethyltrimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride, and combinations thereof.